

Democracy is a very fragile government system. It requires diversification of power to work, which is not a natural state in the history of mankind. All totalitarian governments make sure to control the media, as they know the power that it holds over the people. If democracy is going to flourish in this country, then all media must be owned by a diverse group of individuals and corporations. Consolidation within the industry is a very dangerous precedent, that should be fought vigorously. If all Americans do not enthusiastically defend freedom at all times, then they will lose it.

Large corporations that control significant portions of the airwaves or the nation's newspapers find themselves emboldened to affect public policy, regardless of laws.

With no competition, they do not have to maintain an air of fairness.

This can result in a liberal slant, a conservative slant, a Republican slant, a Democratic slant, a Christian slant, an aesthetic slant, a Nazi slant or a communist slant.

All people, regardless of their beliefs should fear a controlled airwave and print media.

Sinclair
Broadcasting's

decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.

If this were one or
two stations around
the country, this
would not be an
issue. But the fact
that a single
individual can
control what
millions of people
are allowed to see
(or are forced to
see) should be very
disturbing for those
that love the system
of government that
we have come to
know.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard. Thank you.